



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held February 20, 2007, the Board took the following action:

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Robert Taylor, Chief Probation Officer presented the attached assessment, analysis and recommendations relating to the Governor's proposed State initiative, which seeks to shift a substantial number of wards presently housed in the State Juvenile facilities to County Custody, including its impact on County resources and on its ongoing reform efforts and responded to questions posed by the Board.

Arnold Sachs also addressed the Board.

Supervisor Yaroslavsky made the following statement:

"The Governor's budget proposes to allocate 400 million dollars to the counties for capitol outlays for Juvenile facilities. If approved, this gives Los Angeles County a unique opportunity to address the much-needed improvements to our juvenile camps and halls.

"The Probation Department is developing a comprehensive action plan to implement evidence-based practices in its juvenile halls, juvenile camps, and field services. The plan addresses the management and program audits ordered by the Board, United States Department of Justice findings in the three juvenile halls, as well as preliminary findings from the recent Department of Justice investigations into a number of juvenile camps.

"Part of this comprehensive plan includes reprogramming the six Challenger Memorial Youth Center camps to provide evidence-based practices interventions/services to medium and high-risk boys age 15 to 18, including but not limited to:

- Correctional skills training of camp staff and supervisors;
- Cognitive-behavioral and other evidence-based interventions which should reduce juvenile criminal recidivism;

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- Implementing quality assurance measures by camp supervisors and directors to ensure staff training and effective implementation of evidence-based interventions; and
- Measurement, evaluation and reporting of outcomes.

“Of all our camp facilities, the six Challenger camps face the most urgent need for physical and staffing redesign.”

Therefore, Supervisor Yaroslavsky made a motion that the Board take the following actions:

1. Direct the Chief Probation Officer, with assistance from the Chief Administrative Office, to identify and cost-out the capital improvements necessary to alter the physical plant of the six Challenger camps to be consistent with planned staffing and evidence-based practices and services, including, but not limited to:
  - Reconfiguration of dormitory space to provide smaller, contained living units that promote a therapeutic living environment as well as individual responsibility and accountability;
  - Provision of space to relocate camp Deputy Probation Officers to cubicles in the dormitories and the classrooms or immediately adjacent thereto for more direct supervision of youth in a manner that is consistent with Department of Justice’s calculation of staff to youth ratios (1:10);
  - Provision of separate space for multidisciplinary staff from Probation, Mental Health, Health Services and Education;
  - Provision of adequate space for high school education classes and workshops for vocational education purposes;

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2. Instruct the Chief Probation Officer with assistance from the Chief Administrative Officer to explore the availability of funding from the State of California for both the above capital improvements to the Challenger camp facilities and the increased operating costs that would be associated with such changes in the physical plant in order to meet the needs of the Probation camps' current population; and
3. Instruct the Chief Administrative Officer to determine the timeframe of completing the reconfiguration of the Challenger camps; and
4. Instruct the Chief Probation Officer and the Chief Administrative Officer to provide a joint written report to the Board with the above information within 60 days.

After discussion, Supervisor Antonovich made a suggestion that Supervisor Yaroslavsky's motion be amended to include all the Probation camp facilities in the Chief Probation Officer's forthcoming report. Supervisor Yaroslavsky accepted Supervisor Antonovich's amendment.

Supervisor Yaroslavsky's motion, as amended, seconded by Supervisor Burke, was unanimously carried.

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#### Attachment

#### Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor  
Chief Administrative Officer  
County Counsel  
Chief Probation Officer